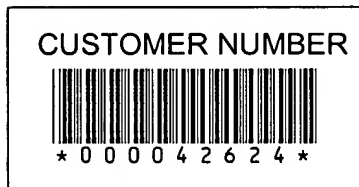


**REMARKS**

The preliminary amendments made herein are to remove multiple dependencies from the claims and to make other minor claim corrections. The new claims restore certain dependencies deleted by the amended claims.

An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.



Respectfully submitted,

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter W. Gowdey", written over a horizontal line.

**Peter W. Gowdey**

Registration No.: 25,872

**Davidson Berquist Jackson & Gowdey, LLP**  
4501 N. Fairfax Drive; Suite 920  
Arlington, VA 22203  
Main: (703) 248-0333  
FAX: (703) 248-9558